

F I L M F O O T A G E

The 28th annual Portland International Film Festival celebrates more than 75 films from around the world

BY AMY LICHTY
PULSE REPORTER

Films such as "Amélie" from France, "Hero" from China and "Whale Rider" from New Zealand are just a few examples of the amazing cinema from around the world that are celebrated in America. This year at the 28th annual Portland International Film Festival, presented by The Northwest Film Center, outstanding films from Japan, Spain, Turkey, Italy, Argentina, Iran and Angora, among others, can be seen through Feb. 26.

From Swedish comedies to documentaries from Croatia, and even an Academy Award nominee from Germany, the Film Festival has more than 75 films for viewers to enjoy.

Most of these movies come to America for festivals but don't get released into mainstream theaters, Northwest Film Center spokesman Thomas Phillipson said.

"(You might see) the films that have bigger distribution companies get put into nation-wide theaters, but a lot of them probably never will be able to be seen outside of the festivals," he said.

Each year, the audience has grown along with the amount of movies shown.

"It started small and grew into about a 30,000-people audience in the past few years," Phillipson said. "We have 160 screenings, which is more than we've ever had. That's about 80 feature films — not counting shorts — from over 30 countries."

Phillipson said it would be physically impossible to see all of the movies, but that doesn't stop many from trying.

"Our hard-core group of audience members, who are members of the Silver Screen Club, will see around 60 films," he said.

For the first time, electronic media students from the journalism school will screen their documentaries on campus

BY NATASHA CHILINGERIAN
SENIOR PULSE REPORTER

The compelling journey of a Holocaust survivor and the struggle of the University's first two African-American football players are some of the stories that will be showcased tonight at the Oregon Documentary Project screening in room 182 of the Lillis Business Complex.

The Oregon Documentary Project, which consists of the work of electronic media students in the School of Journalism and Communication, has been running for eight years, but this is the first time the documentaries will be screened on campus for the public.

Associate journalism professor Dan Miller said a formal screening has always been a goal for journalism students and faculty, and they made it happen this year because of the high quality of the films and the relevance of the projects' topics to current events.

Zanne Miller, assistant director of communications at the journalism school, said every film tells a story of a forgotten piece of Oregon history.

"They all highlight an interesting facet of Oregon history or culture," she said.

One documentary, "Crossing the Abyss: Miriam's Journey," traces the experience of Holocaust survivor Miriam Greenstein from Auschwitz to Oregon, and recently aired on Oregon Public Broadcasting. Journalism student Tahira Hayes said it was difficult to schedule interviews with Greenstein and locate photos from her childhood. She also said it was emotionally challenging but very rewarding.

"We had to take this woman's traumatic life and put 50 to 60 years into eight



BRET FURTWANGLER | GRAPHIC ARTIST

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In my opinion



RYAN NYBURG
BUDGET RACK

Time for another jaunt through pop culture

So once again the Eugene Record Convention has come and gone, as has my paycheck. Record buying is akin to heroin addiction, but easier to brag about. But since I'll be living off beans and rice for the next month, I don't feel it would be appropriate to brag about all the goodies I picked up, which is what I usually spend my post-convention time doing. Instead, I think I'll do the generic entertainment reporter job and give a run-down of the latest celeb gossip, movie releases and other various forms of cultural detritus.

Let's see, drug abuse is a good start. Matthew Perry has been hospitalized for drug-induced seizures stemming from barbiturate

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PULSEMUSIC PULSEMUSIC

Missy Higgins, "All for Believing": Soulful, captivating and harmonious are just three adjectives that come to mind when listening to Missy Higgins' latest EP, "All for Believing."

The first track, the namesake of the 5-track EP, is incredibly rich with enchanting harmonies, a beautiful blend of piano and cello, and a voice that seizes your ears and demands your attention. As the short and sweet EP continues, each song is a standout. "Scar" is an upbeat and clever Michelle Branch-like tune, and the beautifully written ballad "Night Minds" showcases Higgins' clear, pure voice over a simple piano and drum beat.

Higgins' voice has an incredibly clean sound with wide vowels and a slight accent — stemming from her Melbourne, Australia, upbringing — which only adds to her appeal. While still in high school, she wrote "All for Believing" in half an hour for a music class, and Australia soon found the latest girl to join the pop-music scene.

But Higgins is different than other pop princesses such as Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera or even the more original Branch. With obvious influences from jazz and rock, Higgins has put her own twist on the music industry for young women. She not only writes her own music and lyrics, she even plays her own instruments, from piano to guitar. Higgins is a refreshing breath of fresh air in an industry where young women are easily molded into a certain form that usually results in uncreative and repetitive crap.

— Amy Lichty

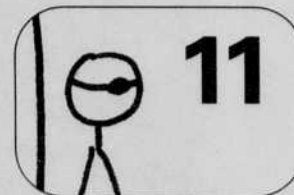
INSIDE PULSE



Juggers offers a friendly atmosphere and some nice drink specials for guests.



The Asian Celebration will take place at the Lane County Fairgrounds this weekend.



Check out the latest installment of Cat Baldwin's "Heads up Penny."

EVENTS MOVIES BOOKS MUSIC

s	m	t	w	t	f	s

Thursday

Jason Webley
Sam Bond's Garage
9 p.m., \$6 to \$8
Modern folk with
accordions

Friday

Mikey Dread
WOW Hall
9:30 p.m., \$15
Reggae

Saturday

Richard Crandell
Café Paradiso
8 p.m., \$8
Mbira music

Sunday

UO Mah Jongg Mavens
Skylight, EMU
5 p.m. to 7 p.m., free
Mah Jongg competitions



TOP 5 MOVIES

- 1: "Hitch"
- 2: "Boogeyman"
- 3: "Are We There Yet?"
- 4: "Million Dollar Baby"
- 5: "Pooh's Heffalump Movie"



NEWYORKTIMES BEST-SELLERS

- 1: John Grisham, "The Broker"
- 2: Dan Brown, "The DaVinci Code"
- 3: J.D. Robb, "Survivor in Death"
- 4: Mitch Albom, "The Five People You Meet in Heaven"
- 5: Michael Crichton, "State of Fear"



BILLBOARDTOP 5

- 1: The Game, "The Documentary"
- 2: Tina Turner, "All the Best"
- 3: Green Day, "American Idiot"
- 4: Kenny Chesney, "Be As You Are"
- 5: John Legend, "Get Lifted"